

Appl. No.: 10/532,839
Reply to Office Action of: 04/14/2006

REMARKS

In regard to section 1 of the office action, the claims have been amended above to overcome the examiner's objection.

Claims 1, 3, 6 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Straub, Jr. et al. (US 5,971,797). Claims 1-5 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Zweigle (US 6,540,547). Claims 1 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Smedberg (US 6,793,521). The examiner is requested to reconsider these rejections.

Claim 1 claims that one of the wall portions of the cover is curved and is adapted for guiding a cable of another cable connector assembly. This can be seen in Fig. 1 wherein the cover of the second assembly 3 supports the cable of the first assembly 2. Claim 1 also claims that the cable connector assembly comprises means for reducing movement and/or assisting guidance of the at least one cable of the one or more other cable connector assemblies. This can be seen with reference to the cable tie 10 shown in Fig. 1. The objective problem underlying the subject invention is to propose an improved cable connector assembly facilitating cable management in dense and small working areas which usually include a plurality of cable connectors arranged side-by-side. To this end, it is proposed to implement a cable connector having a cover provided with at least one curved wall for guiding a cable of another cable assembly. The art cited by the examiner does not disclose or suggest the cable management

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features recited in claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable and should be allowed.

Though dependent claims 2-7 and 10 contain their own allowable subject matter, these claims should at least be allowable due to their dependence from allowable claim 1. However, to expedite prosecution at this time, no further comment will be made.

Claim 8 has been converted into an independent form.

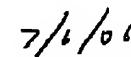
Claims 11-12 have been added above to claim the features recited therein.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issue remain, the examiner is invited to call applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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